



U.S. Department of Justice

**Ronald C. Machen Jr.**  
*United States Attorney for the  
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center  
555 Fourth St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530*

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**For Information Contact:**

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(202) 514-6933

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CHRISTMAS DAY SHOOTER INDICTED ON MURDER**

**Washington, D.C./Superior Court** – United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Ronald C. Machen, Jr. announced today that **Marlo Garcias, also known as, Marlo Garcia, also known as “Lupita,”** 21, of 1630 Park Road, Northwest, Washington, D.C. was indicted in D.C. Superior Court on nine counts including: First Degree Murder While Armed, three counts of Assault with Intent to Kill While Armed, Four Counts of Possession of a Firearm During a Crime of Violence, and one count of Carrying a Pistol Without a License. Today, the defendant was arraigned on the charges before the Honorable Judge Lynn Leibovitz. A trial date was scheduled for April 11, 2011.

On December 25, 2009, **Garcias** shot and killed his best friend, Miguel Romero, while attending a Christmas Day celebration at a rooming house at 5401-4th Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C. at approximately 4:50 a.m. Defendant was in an argument with the decedent over the type of music being played and because **Garcias** had groped the decedent's girlfriend's buttocks. When decedent's cousin approached **Garcias** to calm him, the defendant shot him in the head and a bullet lodged in his brain where it remains. Defendant then shot the decedent's girlfriend in the head and a bullet lodged in her brain where it remains.

**Garcias** shot Romero in the back, neck and head. He died immediately. **Garcias** then fired a shot but missed a third person in the apartment. The defendant fled the scene but was arrested two days later, and held without bond. He remains in custody.

An Indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of criminal laws and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.

In announcing today's indictment, United States Attorney Ronald C. Machen, Jr. thanked D.C. Metropolitan Police Department Officers Dwayne Partman, Sean Caine, Robert Arrington, and Mobile Crime officers Natasha Pettus and Dwayne Mitchell. Mr. Machen also commended staff at the U.S. Attorney's Office including: Victim Witness Specialist, Iris Vega, paralegal specialist, Fern Rhederick and Assistant U.S. Attorney, Cynthia G. Wright who prosecuted the case.